



CELEBRATING OUR FREEDOM: Just a friendly reminder that fireworks are allowed between 5 p.m. and two hours after sunset through July 9. The exception is July 4 between 10 a.m. and midnight. "Fireworks can be dangerous," Police Chief Pete Hojnicky said. "Take every precaution to stay safe."

GAZEBOEXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • JULY 2017

CARDINAL CAMPUS READIES FOR FINAL APPROVAL STAGE

A development destined to transform most of what remains of residential properties on Main Street has advanced to the final stage.

After approving a zone change from residential to commercial in June, the Highland Plan Commission will review the final Planned Unit Development and plat approvals for the nine-acre parcel in August.

Located east of Prairie Avenue along Main, the Cardinal Campus plans include professional offices and a boutique hotel.

Veterinary Surgeon Claude Gendreau, who has been pursuing a development adjacent to one of the hottest commercial corridors in Lake County for more than a year, hopes to begin construction yet this year.

Council President Dan Vassar said the upscale development will be an asset to Highland.

"Cardinal Campus is being created with attention to detail that sets it apart from any other development in the region," he said. 🐾



SENIOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

A traffic study may signal the next step in plans to build senior housing south and east of Ultra Foods. Councilman Bernie Zemen said a development where Osborn, Highway and Ridge converge just east of Indianapolis Boulevard is a possibility. "It would be great to have a place in town where residents could stay after they retire," he said. "The developer who approached us with the project is investigating the possibilities."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit highland.in.gov to view development renderings and complete project details.

GENERAL PARK RULES

The Town of Highland prohibits the following by ordinance in all parks:

- ✓ Advertising and soliciting.
- ✓ Alcohol (unauthorized), drugs, gambling and disorderly conduct.
- ✓ Camping, sleeping and overnight parking.
- ✓ Defacing park property, destroying landscape, dumping and littering.
- ✓ ATV vehicles, mopeds, motor vehicles and snowmobiles.
- ✓ Fireworks and open fires.
- ✓ Glass containers and metal detectors.
- ✓ Baseball is permitted only at Homestead, Markley and Orchard parks. Tennis courts are for tennis use only. Archery, golfing and swimming are strictly prohibited.
- ✓ Pets must be on leash at all times and owners are responsible for handling pet waste. Horses and harassing wildlife are prohibited.
- ✓ Rentals must be vacated from premises in compliance with scheduled park hours.

INFO: Please notify Highland Parks and Recreation at (219) 838-0114 for violations of park policies or if you notice a facility in need of repair.

TOWN ENDORSES GREAT LAKES FUNDING

Highland became the first municipality in the region to endorse protections and funding for the Great Lakes, when the Town Council unanimously endorsed a resolution that has been forwarded to lawmakers in Washington.

"The Great Lakes are vital to the health and welfare of every Highland resident," Council President Dan Vassar said. "The idea that Washington would jeopardize the lives of tens of millions of Americans by removing environmental restrictions and protections of these vital waterways is unthinkable."

Congress is considering slashing Great Lakes funding from \$300 million to \$10 million per year. The sense-of-the-council resolution was developed after town leaders heard from Indivisible Highland, a local group that is part of a national initiative aimed at protecting Americans.

MORE INFO: Find the organization – Indivisible Northwest Indiana - Highland – on Facebook. The group meets at 6 p.m. every other Friday at Sip Coffee House, 2815 Jewett Ave. The next meeting is July 14. 🐾

HIGHLAND CURFEW

School may be out, but Highland Police Chief Pete Hojnicky is reminding parents and guardians that the town curfew is still in effect.

It is a violation for teens ages 15, 16 or 17 to be in a public place:

- ✓ Between midnight and 5 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.
- ✓ After 10:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday.
- ✓ Before 5 a.m. Monday-Friday.

It is a curfew violation for children under 15 to be in a public place:

- ✓ Between 10 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. any day of the week.

CORONER TO ADDRESS HEROIN IN LAKE COUNTY

Lake County Coroner Merrilee Frey will focus on the growing problem of heroin in the region at this month's Highland Crime Watch meeting.

Heroin-related deaths have more than quadrupled in the United States since 2010. In 2016, Frey reported 114 deaths from overdoses in Lake County, eight of which were Highland residents.

It is a problem experts believe will get worse before it gets better as the most potent form of heroin — a synthetic drug known as fentanyl — continues to pour across the border in a lethal trade that begins in China.

Because simply breathing fentanyl can kill, all Highland officers are trained in drug emergencies and carry Naloxone (known as Narcan) for on-the-site treatment of opioid overdoses.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. **JULY 12**

WHERE: HPD Community Room

INFO: Call (219) 838-3184 or email sanderson@highland.in.gov.



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NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

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JOHNSTON STREET BEFORE



JOHNSTON STREET AFTER

JOHNSTON STREET IMPROVEMENTS FEATURE SIDEWALK, ROAD UPGRADES

A new water main, curbs, storm sewers, sidewalks and graded asphalt has replaced timeworn pavement on one of the oldest streets in town.

Named after the town's first settlers — Michael and Judith Johnston — the two-block section of the thoroughfare between Ridge Road and Highway Avenue still features homes that harken back to the founding of Highland.

"This project has been on the drawing board for a long time and we're hearing how happy the residents are with the improvements," Public Works Director John Bach said. "We were able to upgrade the street while maintaining the character of the neighborhood." 🐦

RIDGE ROAD UPDATE

After taking a hiatus to allow easier traffic flow during the Fourth of July festival, construction crews will resume work on Ridge Road to complete Americans with Disabilities improvements to sidewalks in July before resurfacing the main thoroughfare in August.

Johnston Street reconstruction from Ridge to Highway along with Ridge Road resurfacing from Fifth Street to Cline Avenue were made possible when the town participated in the state's Community Crossings Matching Grant Program.

In exchange for a \$500,000 commitment from the town, the state contributed an identical amount. The town chipped in additional funds beyond the grant to upgrade sidewalks at intersections, making them ADA compliant.

FIFTH STREET PROJECT FIXES SEWER PIPES, REDUCES GROUNDWATER INFILTRATION

Rehabilitating the Fifth Street sewer from Ridge to LaPorte is going to cost \$900,000. It is a project that will more than pay for itself over the next four decades.

Fifth Street was selected to be the first project in a multi-year effort to fix deficient pipes and reduce the amount of groundwater infiltrating the sanitary sewer system.

Assistant Public Works Director Bob Johnson said the choice was easy.

"Two years ago, we hired a company to videotape the sanitary sewer system," Johnson said. "Using that footage, we identified the most deficient pipes and prioritized them for repair."

The fix is an in-situ liner, which cures in place using hot water. The result is a slick surface that performs like a brand new pipe, which is expected to last 40 years.

Council President Dan Vassar is proudest of improvements residents never see.

"Every dollar we spend now saves us in future costs," he said. "Investing in our sewers means greater efficiencies in our sanitary system."

Every gallon of rainwater that is kept out of the sanitary system saves the town in transport and treatment costs. A single significant rain event means millions of gallons of infiltration in unrepaired sewers. 🐦

Community Organization Spotlight



Rotary members joined 7th grade students, who participated in a weeklong camp that reinforce skills they learned at the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) Program. Highland Rotary contributed funds to help underwrite camp expenses.

HIGHLAND ROTARY MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Since 1965, the local Rotary Club is one of a handful of organizations that continue to build the community in ways no other effort can.

For the last 45 years, Rotary Club International has been one of three constants in Richard Underkofler's life right behind family and faith.

It was Rotary's dedication to serving the community that drew Underkofler, the Highland club's new president, to become a member.

He loves visiting with old friends and making new ones at the Rotary Corn Roast held every summer at Main Square Park. What he loves even more: What the group has been able to accomplish with the proceeds from the event.

"Where there is a need, we aim to fill it," he said. This year's project goals include:

Local Trees. A \$1,000 grant to replace trees effected by the emerald ash borer.

International Projects. An \$800 donation to the Give-a-Book Project in collaboration with the Peace Corps for rural Costa Rican school libraries; and a \$1,000 donation for shelter needed for disaster relief.

Membership. Cultivating new members.

"Our membership suffered when banks merged and big-box retailers emerged," he said.

"Today, we welcome our neighbors and friends to join us as Highland Rotarians." 🐦

INFO: Find Rotary Club of Highland on FB.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP: Two Highland High School juniors are recognized for their leadership with an all-expenses-paid camp.

WORLD AFFAIRS: Rotary hosts a conference for students interested in world events. This year, Highland students attended a daylong discussion regarding "The Storm over Climate Change - Policy and Politics" at PNW.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Rotary gives \$3,000 annually to Dollars for Scholars.

LITERACY: The group distributes dictionaries to 3rd graders every year.

TOWN SUPPORT: Rotary gives grants to fire, police and the parks for high-priority needs - like exercise equipment at Lincoln Center.

HEARTS IN MOTION: We give \$2,500 each year for humanitarian service projects in Guatemala.

ROTARY CORN ROAST

Join us for all the corn you can eat plus two hot dogs or one sausage, chips, drink and dessert. Proceeds benefit Highland scholarships and park, fire and police departments.

WHEN: 4 to 7:30 p.m. **AUGUST 4**

WHERE: Main Square Park

FEE: \$6 in advance or \$8 at the park. Tickets are available at Cakes by Karen, Lincoln Center and the Highland Griffith Chamber office.

INFO: Call (219) 923-3666.



KIWANIS CHICKEN DINNER

Join Highland Kiwanis for a chicken dinner at Main Square Park. Eat at the park or carry out. Tickets are \$10 and include half a roasted chicken, Nelson's tasty Pit-Tatoes and slaw. Proceeds support youth groups: K-Kids, Builders Club, and Key Club.

WHEN: 5 to 6:30 p.m. **JULY 28**

WHERE: Main Square Park

TICKETS: Purchase tickets for \$10 at Lincoln Community Center.

INFO: Call (219) 923-2360.

CHAMBER GOLF OUTING

Sign up to tee-off at the 2017 golf outing sponsored by the Highland Griffith Chamber of Commerce.

WHEN: 11 a.m. registration & lunch, noon shotgun start **JULY 21**

WHERE: Wicker Park Golf Course

FEE: \$125 per person includes lunch, golf, cart, dinner, drink tickets, golf balls. \$25 cash prize on every hole.

RESERVATIONS: Call (219) 923-3666.

40-YEAR CLASS REUNION

Highland's Class of 1977 is hosting its 40-year reunion. The \$45 per person cost includes dinner, open bar, DJ and live entertainment with DYLLYNGYR.

WHEN: 6 p.m. to midnight **AUGUST 4**

WHERE: Wicker Park Clubhouse

RSVP: Email Marilyn.e.Skertic@hotmail.com by July 21. Make checks payable to Marilyn Skertic, 1919 Briarwood Circle, Munster, IN 46321.

MIDWEEK MUSIC & MARKET

Shop local businesses at the midweek market from 4 to 8 p.m. Bring a comfy lawn chair for the live entertainment from 5 to 7 p.m. and the summer concert series from 7 to 9 p.m. Beer garden will be available. Here's the lineup:

JULY 12: Robert Rolfe Feddersen
Mason Rivers - *country*

JULY 19: Dennis, Andrew, & Michelle
New Odyssey - *variety*

WHERE: Main Square Park Gazebo

NOTE: In the event of inclement weather, concerts will be held in the Lincoln Center Fieldhouse. Please bring your own chair.

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

MOVIES IN THE PARK

Join us for an evening in the park to watch "The Lego Batman Movie" on the big screen. The concession stand will sell popcorn and fountain drinks. Bring a blanket or comfortable lawn chair. If it rains, movie will be held at Lincoln Center.

WHEN: Dusk Friday, **JULY 14**

WHERE: Main Square Park

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

KICKAROO KARATE KIDS

A fun, non-contact program inspires self-esteem, builds character and prepares young children — ages 3-5 — to face life's challenges. There are no elements of sparring. Dress comfortably.

WHEN: 3:15-3:50 p.m. or 4-4:35 p.m. Mondays, **JULY 31 - SEPTEMBER 11** (off Sept. 4).

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$47 residents/\$52 nonresidents

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

RED HOT TENNIS CAMP

Learn proper tennis techniques from instructors Steve and Ofelia. Steve is a longtime USPTR tennis pro at Match Point and former head coach at Calumet College. Ofelia is a USPTR tennis pro at Match Point, assistant girls tennis coach at Highland High and former assistant coach at Calumet College. Camp is open to boys and girls 5 to 18 years old. Dress comfortably and bring your own racquet.

WHEN: 8 to 9:30 a.m. or 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Monday through Thursday, **JULY 10-28**

WHERE: Highland High School tennis courts

FEE: \$140/\$150 per 3 week session; \$95/\$105 per 2 week session; \$50/\$55 for 1 week.

ONLINE CODE: 160001

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

OILMEN BASEBALL GAME

Highland residents are invited to watch the Whiting Oilmen take on the Southland Vikings at a discounted rate of \$4 a ticket and \$2 pints.

WHEN: 7:10 p.m. **JULY 13**

WHERE: Oil City Stadium, Whiting

TICKETS: nwioilmen.com, code CHAMBER

KIDS FISHING CONTEST

Junior anglers will bait their hooks and cast their lines from 8 to 10 a.m. July 15 at Meadow's Park Pond. Contestants will enjoy a morning of fishing activities in this annual catch-and-release fishing tournament.

Don't forget! Parks and Recreation added a new fishing pier with rails last year that is ADA accessible at the east end of the pond.

Registration

July 13 deadline

Event fee

\$7 residents

\$10 nonresidents

What to bring

Bring your own pole, hooks, lures and bobbers.

Bait is provided.

For more information

Please call Highland Parks & Recreation at (219) 838-0114 or visit highlandparks.org.



CHICAGO BULLS SUMMER CAMP

Let the Chicago Bulls teach you how to play like a champion! Improve every aspect of your game including ball handling, shooting, passing, rebounding, footwork, individual moves and team concepts. Campers — ages 6 to 12 — receive a Chicago Bulls duffel bag, Bulls indoor/outdoor basketball, T-shirt, evaluation report and graduation certificate.

WHEN: 1 to 4 p.m. **JULY 31 - AUGUST 4**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center Fieldhouse

FEE: \$215 per player

REGISTER: Online at www.bullssoxacademy.com or call (630) 324-8221.

STATE FAIR THE MUSICAL™

The Highland Parks & Recreation Department's Performing Arts Group presents "State Fair the Musical" — a heartfelt story of the Frake family, who leave behind the farm for the Iowa State Fair. Mom and pop have their hearts set on blue ribbons while their daughter and son find romance and heartbreak on the midway. Bring a comfy lawn chair or blanket.

WHEN: 8 p.m. **JULY 27-29** and **AUGUST 3-5**

WHERE: Main Square Gazebo

FEE: Admission is free. Programs are \$2.

All proceeds offset the cost of production.
INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.